

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~evaluating~~ verifying a boot source in a computer system having a processor comprising:

storing a trusted boot source in a first register, the first register comprising a write-once register;

determining an actual ~~the~~ boot source used by the processor each time the computer system boots including examining a location of a predetermined number of instructions initially executed during boot up; ~~the boot source determining further including writing~~

storing an identity of the actual boot source in a second register; ~~the identity of the boot source including a location of a particular number of instructions initially executed; and all you~~

~~allowing the boot source to be specified once as a known boot source~~

comparing the actual boot source against the trusted boot source.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the trusted boot source comprises a FLASH boot source. ~~the known boot source allowing step further includes:~~

~~specifying that the known boot source to be a FLASH boot source.~~

3-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A system for ~~verifying~~ evaluating a boot source in a computer system having a processor coupled with a boot source, the system comprising:

a first register, comprising a write-once register, the first register for storing an identity of a trusted ~~the~~ boot;

a bridge, coupled in communication with the first register, the bridge to determine an actual boot source used by the processor each time the computer system boots including examining a location of a predetermined number of instructions initially executed during boot up; ~~the identity of the boot source including a location of a particular number of instructions initially executed;~~ and

a second register, coupled in communication with the bridge, the second register to store an identify of the actual boot source; and for allowing the boot source to be specified once as a known boot source,

wherein the bridge compares the actual boot source against the trusted boot source.

7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 6 wherein the ~~computer system~~ ~~includes a bridge~~ couples ~~coupling~~ the processor with the actual boot source and wherein the first register and the second register are located within ~~in~~ the bridge.

8. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 6 ~~claim 7~~ wherein the bridge is a south bridge.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 6 wherein the trusted ~~known~~ boot source is written only once to the second register during manufacture of the computer system.

10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 6 ~~claim 9~~ wherein the trusted ~~known~~ boot source is a FLASH boot source.

11. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 6 wherein the identity of the actual boot source is written to the first register each time the computer system boots.

12. (Original) The system of claim 6 wherein the processor is capable of checking the boot source stored in the first register to ensure that the boot source is the known boot source.

13-14. (Cancelled).

15. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein storing the trusted boot source comprises storing the trusted boot source in the first register during manufacture of the computer system.

16. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
responsive to the actual boot source not matching the trusted boot source, shutting
down the computer system.

17. (New) The system of claim 6, wherein responsive actual boot source not matching the trusted boot source, shutting down the computer system.